

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of notifying a component of a service provider associated with a telephone system wherein the service provider receives a block of telephone numbers including contaminated and uncontaminated numbers within a received block of telephone numbers, the contaminated numbers being unavailable for use by the receiving service provider, the method comprising:~~

requesting a block of telephone numbers from a number pool, organization, wherein numbers in the requested block of telephone numbers are to be used by a receiving service provider as both telephone directory numbers and customer identifiers for customers of the receiving service provider, wherein the number pool organization coordinates donation and allocation of blocks of telephone numbers for use by a plurality of service providers comprising the receiving service provider, and other service providers;

receiving the requested block of telephone numbers from the number pool organization, the received block of telephone numbers comprising a plurality of telephone numbers already in use by the other service providers and a plurality of telephone numbers not already in use by the other service providers;

retrieving from a database a list ~~comprising a plurality of contaminated numbers included in the received block of received numbers~~ comprising the plurality of telephone numbers already in use by the other service providers and therefore unavailable for use as both telephone directory numbers and customer identifiers for customers of the receiving service provider; and

retrieving from a database, a location routing number of a switch associated with the plurality of telephone numbers not already in use by the other service providers and therefore available for use by the receiving service provider as both telephone directory numbers and customer identifiers for customers of the receiving service provider. ~~the plurality of uncontaminated numbers that are included in the received block of numbers.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, comprising receiving the list comprising the plurality of telephone numbers already in use by the other service providers of ~~contaminated numbers~~ and the location routing number from a single database.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting the list comprising the plurality of telephone numbers already in use by the other service providers of ~~contaminated numbers~~ to a component of the service provider.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the component comprises a billing system.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the component comprises a facility maintenance system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting the location routing number of the switch to which the received block of numbers are associated to a component of the service provider.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the component is a billing system.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the component comprises a facility maintenance system.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~notifying business components of a service provider of contaminated numbers in a received block of telephone numbers and associating a new location routing number with the uncontaminated numbers in the received block of telephone numbers, the system comprising:~~

an interface for communicating between a number pooling authority and a component of ~~the~~ a service provider, wherein the service provider has requested a block of telephone numbers to be used as both telephone directory numbers and customer identifiers for customers of the requesting service provider, wherein the number pool organization coordinates donation and allocation of blocks of telephone numbers for use by a plurality of service providers comprising the requesting service provider and other service providers;

a database comprising a list of ~~contaminated~~ numbers in the block of telephone numbers received by the requesting service provider, the list comprising the plurality of telephone numbers already in use by the other service providers and therefore unavailable for

use as both telephone directory numbers and customer identifiers for customers of the requesting service provider; and

a database comprising a location routing number of a switch associated with the plurality of telephone numbers not already in use by the other service providers and therefore available for use by the receiving service provider as both telephone directory numbers and customer identifiers for customers of the requesting service provider ~~the uncontaminated numbers~~ in the block of telephone numbers received by the requesting service provider.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising receiving the list and the location routing number from a single database.

11. (Original) A computer-readable medium containing computer-readable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.